



Docket No.: K2020.0002  
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:  
Yoshihiko Nagamine et al.

Application No.: 10/767,330

Confirmation No.: 5218

Filed: January 30, 2004

Art Unit: 2882

For: PATIENT POSITIONING DEVICE AND  
PATIENT POSITIONING METHOD

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

**PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL  
UNDER 37 CFR 1.102(d)**

MS Petition  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicants hereby petition to make the above-identified application special under MPEP § 708.02, X. The application has not yet been examined. The present invention relates generally to a particle therapy system, and particularly to a patient positioning device and method. In one aspect of the invention, the positioning system and method uses the location of a tumor and the expected path of a charged particle beam to position a patient on a support. While the patient is positioned on the support, particle beam therapy is applied. The positioning system and method allows for the applied treatment to be more accurately directed to the diseased portion (e.g., cancerous tumor) of the patient's body. Thus, the present invention contributes to the treatment of cancer, within the meaning of MPEP § 708.02, X. Accordingly, applicant requests that this Petition to Make Special be granted and the application undergo accelerated examination.

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DSMDB.1891895.1

A Preliminary Amendment and an Information Disclosure Statement are being filed concurrently herewith.

Please charge our Credit Card in the amount of \$130.00 covering the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(h). Credit Card Payment Form SB-2038, with a signature from an authorized cardholder, is enclosed. The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 04-1073, under Order No. K2020.0002. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Dated: March 31, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

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